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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/721,885	11/26/2003	Tomohiro Aikawa	520.43300X00	5996

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EXAMINER	
RAO, ANAND SHASHIKANT	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2621	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/20/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/721,885	AIKAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andy S. Rao	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 September 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-7,9,10,12,14 and 15* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-7,9,10,12,14 and 15* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-7, 9-10, 12, 14-15 as filed on 9/12/07 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-10, 12, 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Aharoni et al., (hereinafter referred to as "Aharoni").

Aharoni discloses a motion picture transmission method (Aharoni: figures 11-1 & 11-2, 12-1 & 12-2, and 13-14) for transmitting motion picture signal input from an input terminal to a plurality of video reception units (Aharoni: column 18, lines 14-25), respectively, through a video transmission unit and a plurality of transmission lines (Aharoni: column 18, lines 45-65), each of which has a different transmission speed (Aharoni: column 12, lines 1-26), said method comprising the steps of: generating at least Intra (I) picture data and a plurality of Predictive (P) picture data based on said motion picture signal in said video transmission unit (Aharoni: column 8, lines 55-65); storing at least said I picture data and a plurality of said P picture data (Aharoni: column 10, lines 35-50) in a memory unit of said video transmission unit (Aharoni: column 11, lines 11, lines 30-45); and transmitting said I picture data and a different number of P picture

data in response to different transmission speeds (Aharoni: column 12, lines 40-60) of a plurality of said transmission lines from said memory unit of said video transmission unit to a plurality of video reception units (Aharoni: column 17, lines 17-38), respectively (Aharoni: column 11, lines 5-12), as in claim 1.

Regarding claim 3, Aharoni discloses wherein said video transmission unit encodes said motion picture signal based on either one of Motion Picture Experts Group MPEG-4 and MPEG-2 (Aharoni: column 18, lines 40-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 4, Aharoni discloses a motion picture transmission method wherein in the case where it is determined that said picture data motion picture signal comprises: at least first I picture data and second I picture data (Aharoni: column 10, lines 10, lines 35-50), a transmission of said P picture data subsequent to said first I picture data is cancelled in response to said transmission speed which is low (Aharoni: column 13, lines 15-35), and transmission is started from said second I picture data is transmitted subsequent to said first I picture data (Aharoni: column 12, lines 5-15), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 5, Aharoni discloses wherein when the number of said P picture data is changed in response to said transmission speed of said transmission line, the number of P picture data subsequent to said I picture data is changed in accordance with the transmission speed of said transmission line, said P picture data being continuous, and the changed number of said P picture data is transmitted (Aharoni: column 12, lines 40-60: skipped P frame), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 6, Aharoni discloses wherein said video transmission unit stores the number of I picture data and a plurality predetermined number of P picture data according to a request from in response to said transmission speed of said transmission line, and transmits said

stored I picture data and P picture data are transmitted as stream data of a Group of Pictures (GOP) unit to said transmission line (Aharoni: column 10, lines 45-50), as in the claim.

Aharoni discloses a motion picture transmission system (Aharoni: figures 1-2, and 15), comprising: an input terminal to which a motion picture signal is applied (Aharoni: column 6, lines 35-50); a video transmission unit (Aharoni: column 11, lines 25-45), coupled to said input terminal, for encoding a motion picture signal (Aharoni: column 6, lines 55-60); a plurality of transmission lines (Aharoni: column 18, lines 44-65), coupled to said video transmission unit, for transmitting video data encoded in said video transmission unit, each of which has a different transmission speed (Aharoni: column 12, lines 10-20); and a plurality of video reception unit-units, coupled to a plurality of said transmission lines, respectively, for receiving said video data transmitted via said transmission lines (Aharoni: column 18, lines 13-25), wherein said video transmission unit includes: generator for generating at least an Intra (I) picture data and a plurality of Predictive (P) picture data (Aharoni: column 10, lines 33-45), and a memory unit for storing said I picture data and a plurality of said P picture data (Aharoni: column 11, lines 5-15); and selector for selecting said I picture data and a predetermined different number of P picture data in response to said transmission speeds of a plurality of said transmission lines to transmit a plurality of said video reception units (Aharoni: column 13, lines 10-55), respectively, (Aharoni: column 11, lines 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 9, Aharoni discloses wherein the means for changing the number of said P picture data in accordance with response to said transmission speeds of a plurality of said transmission lines and transmitting the changed number of said P picture data includes means for

changing the number of P picture data subsequent to said I picture data (Aharoni: column 12, lines 45-55: skip frames), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 10, Aharoni discloses wherein said image transmission unit further comprises: a memory-unit, said memory unit stores the number of I picture data and a plurality different number of said P picture data in response to said transmission speeds of a plurality of according to a request from said transmission lines, and wherein said video transmission unit converts said stored I picture data and P picture data into stream data of a Group of Pictures (GOP) unit and transmits said stream data to said transmission lines (Aharoni: column 10, lines 45-50), as in the claim.

Aharoni discloses a motion picture transmission apparatus (Aharoni: figures 1-2, and 15), comprising: an input terminal to which a motion picture signal is applied (Aharoni: column 18, lines 14-25); a coding unit coupled with said input terminal, for converting said motion picture signal into at least Intra (I) picture data and a plurality of Predictive (P) picture data (Aharoni: column 8, lines 55-65); a memory unit for storing said I and P picture data (Aharoni: column 10, lines 35-50); an output unit for outputting said I and P picture data (Aharoni: column 11, lines 30-45); a plurality of transmission lines, coupled to said output unit, for transmitting said I and P picture data (Aharoni: column 18, lines 43-65), each of which has a different transmission speed (Aharoni: column 12, lines 10-20); a plurality of video reception units, coupled to a plurality of said transmission lines, respectively, (Aharoni: column 18, lines 13-25); and a control unit for controlling said output unit, wherein said control unit controls the number of I picture data and a different number of P picture data output from said output unit in accordance response to said transmission speeds of said transmission lines (Aharoni: column 12, lines 45-55), as in claim 12.

Regarding claim 14, Aharoni discloses wherein the means for changing the number of said P picture data in accordance with response to said transmission speeds of a plurality of said transmission lines and transmitting the changed number of said P picture data includes means for changing the number of P picture data subsequent to said I picture data (Aharoni: column 12, lines 45-55: skip frames), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 15, Aharoni discloses wherein said image transmission unit further comprises: a memory-unit, said memory unit stores the number of I picture data and a plurality different number of said P picture data in response to said transmission speeds of a plurality of according to a request from said transmission lines, and wherein said video transmission unit converts said stored I picture data and P picture data into stream data of a Group of Pictures (GOP) unit and transmits said stream data to said transmission lines (Aharoni: column 10, lines 45-50), as in the claim.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (571)-272-7337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571)-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andy S. Rao
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2621

asr
November 20, 2007